**Regularisation of casual workers**

*348. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are hundreds of casual workers working for several years under various divisions of CGM, BSNL in the country, particularly in North Eastern Region; and

(b) if so, what is Government's stand to make these ill fated casual workers regular?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHIMARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Casual Labourers, including those who have been granted Temporary Status, are to be regularized in following order, w.e.f. 1.10.2000, subject to their eligibility and availability of posts:—

(i) Casual Labourers who have been granted temporary status

(ii) Full time casual Labourers workign on 1.8.1998

**(iii)** Part Time Casual Labourers who were working for four or more hours per day and converted to Full Time Casual Labourers

(iv) Part Time casual Labourers who were working for less than four hours per day and converted to Full Time Casual Labourers

(v) Ayas and Supervisors, working in creches, converted into Full Time Casual Labourers.

**Increase of child labour**

†*349. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of child labourers has increased during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have decided to enact new laws to check child labour; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.